

CLASSIFICATION SECRET

SECURITY INFORMATION

COUNTRY East Germany

REPORT

TOPIC Military Information from Rathenow

50X1-HUM

EVALUATION

PLACE OBTAINED

DATE OF CONTENT

50X1-HUM

DATE OBTAINED

DATE PREPARED

22 October 1953

REFERENCES

PAGES 3

ENCLOSURES (NO. & TYPE)

REMARKS

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1. On 2 October 1953, the Infanterie Kaserne in Rathenow was occupied by about 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. On the same day, factory-new and or overhauled motor vehicles [redacted] were lined up in the barracks area. At about 6 p.m., six of these trucks, each occupied by about 15 to 20 soldiers, left the installation toward the town. Trucks [redacted] were seen en route to and from the installation. 50X1-HUM
2. On 2 October, the Pionier Kaserne was occupied by about 200 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. At about 5 p.m. on 28 September, about 80 to 100 troops were filling straw mattresses in the barracks yard. Trucks [redacted] were seen en route to and from the 50X1-HUM installation.
3. On 2 October, the Kraftfahrer Kaserne was occupied by about 700 troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. On 30 September, about 25 EM with signal equipment and 1 major entered the installation, coming from the training area. On 1 October, 1 major, 2 lieutenants and about 60 EM engaged in physical training in the barracks area. Trucks [redacted] were seen en route to and from the installation. 50X1-HUM
4. Motor vehicle [redacted] and others [redacted] were seen entering and leaving the Ziethen Kaserne.¹ 50X1-HUM
5. From 26 September to 2 October, 2 shipments of tanks and trucks and 1 shipment of troops were seen in Jerichow, [redacted]. The last mentioned train was seen leaving toward Schoenhausen. [redacted] exercises were conducted in this area, as had been observed in 1952.² 50X1-HUM
6. On 28 September, all was quiet in the Ziethen Kaserne. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Truck [redacted] left the 50X1-HUM installation.
7. On 28 September, [redacted] the Rathenow komendatura was located between Rathausplatz and Ebertring. The building was surrounded by a board fence. At 11:30 a.m. on the same day, four soldiers loaded baggage and boxes on truck [redacted] in front of the komendatura. 50X1-HUM

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8. On 23 September, the Kraftfahrer Kaserne and the Infanterie Kaserne were only lightly occupied. Sentries observed wore red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Almost no activity was observed in the barracks area. Truck [] towing a gun was seen en route toward the barracks installations, coming from the Nordbahnhof. 50X1-HUM
9. On 2. September, the Pionier Kaserne was occupied by troops wearing red-bordered black epaulets with artillery insignia. Intensive activity was observed in the barracks area. Motor vehicles seen en route to and from the installation [] 50X1-HUM
10. On 20 September, [] two restricted areas in Rathenow, one on Puschkin Strasse and the other on Ebertring. These areas were surrounded by high board fences. [] Soviet dependents were also quartered there. 50X1-HUM
11. On 14 and 15 September, [] telephone poles, white wire and generators were shipped to the Rathenow railroad station by trucks [] Each truck was occupied by a loading detail of 4 to 5 soldiers wearing red-bordered black epaulets. The signal equipment which, [] was material of the line which extended from the wooded area near Friedrichshof westward beyond the Havel River and, [] had been dismantled on 16 September as stored on the road to the loading ramp.³ On 16 and 17 September, 5 to 8 trucks, [] shuttled billeting equipment from the timber yard of the special construction bureau to the railroad station, where it was stored near the loading ramp, guarded by a detail of about 30 to 40 soldiers and several uniformed women. [] this material was entrained on 18 September, while the signal equipment had been entrained on 16 September. 50X1-HUM
12. Between 14 and 24 September, [] a general with his family was billeted opposite the komendatura on Stalin Allee. A sentry with a dog and, twice, sedan [] were seen in front of the building.¹ 50X1-HUM
13. At about noon on 16 September, trucks [] loaded with factory-new tables and chairs were seen en route toward the New Lock in the west section of the town, coming from the timber yard of the special construction bureau. The same shipment was observed in the evening. [] the furniture was billeting equipment for the installation at the airfield. 50X1-HUM
14. On 26 September, [] the telephone lines previously observed along Highway No 103 had been dismantled. 50X1-HUM
1. Comment. Except for the preparations for occupation which tend to indicate that the units of the 6th Arty Div will soon arrive, no changes were discernible in the installations mentioned prior to 2 October. [] According to motor vehicle [] the general mentioned in paragraph 1 of the present report, belongs to the HQ IV Arty Corps. 50X1-HUM
2. [] 50X1-HUM

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3. Comment. The director headquarters of the known command post exercise in Lockenbourg was located in the area south of Rathenow. The motor vehicle belong to signal units of the GDFG. According to the referenced report, the equipment and signal units were shipped to Dresden and Fuerstenberg on two trains

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